



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit:

3612

Examiner:

H. Gutman

Applicant(s):

J. Melotik et al.

Serial No.:

09/681,166

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For:

INTEGRATED EXTENDABLE LOAD
FLOOR ASSEMBLY FOR VEHICLES

PRELIMINARY
AMENDMENT

[Handwritten signature and date: H. Gutman 4/17/02]

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the pending paragraph [0004] on page 1 of the Specification with the following:

Accordingly, the present invention is an integrated extendable load floor assembly for a vehicle having a rear end with a floor and sides extending upwardly and along the floor to form a cargo area and a decklid for closing an upper portion of the cargo area. The integrated extendable load floor assembly includes a plurality of rails adapted to be disposed upon the sides above the floor of the rear end. The integrated extendable load floor assembly also includes a load floor operatively cooperating with the rails for sliding movement therealong and to close a longitudinal end of the cargo area.